



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Results of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hired Workers Remain Steady in the Northeast II Region Compared to a Year Ago

HARRISBURG, PA, December 2, 2010 - -There were 37,000 hired workers in the Northeast II region farms, including Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, during the week of October 10-16, 2010, the same as a year ago. Average hours worked for the week, at 41.9, was up from the 41.0 hours per worker from the same week a year ago.

Farm operators in the Northeast II region paid their hired workers an average wage of \$12.05 per hour during the October 2010 reference week, up \$1.17 from a year earlier. Field workers received \$11.84 per hour, up \$1.56 from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.17 per hour, up 67 cents.

In the U.S., there were 1,157,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2010, up 4 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 826,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 331,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.13 per hour during the October 2010 reference week, up 20 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.49 per hour, up 27 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.27 per hour compared with \$10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.43 per hour, was up 19 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.7 for hired workers during the survey week, up 7 percent from a year ago.

The 2010 U.S. all hired worker annual average wage rate was \$10.95 per hour, up 1 percent from the 2009 annual average wage rate of \$10.83 per hour. The U.S. field worker annual average wage rate was \$10.19 per hour, up 12 cents from last year's annual average. The field and livestock combined annual average wage rate at the U.S. level was \$10.22 per hour, up 1 percent from last year's annual average wage rate of \$10.12 per hour.

SOURCE: Farm Labor, 3:00pm, November 18, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at www.nass.usda.gov.